

CAROLINAS ONLY INDEPENDENT FARM MAGAZINE

THE

Carolina Farmer

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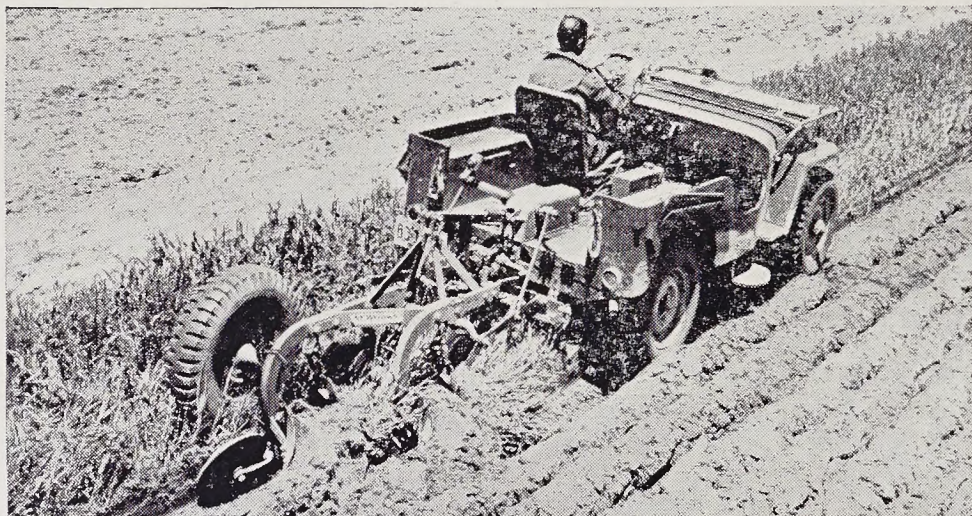
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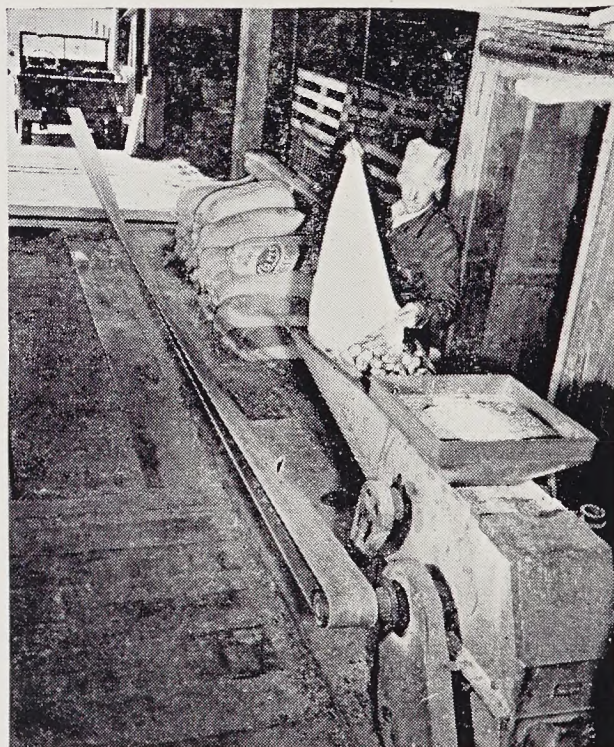
LEFT— The sure-footed 4-wheel-drive 'Jeep' gets you to any part of your place in a hurry—climbs steep grades, pulls its load through deep mud and sand, over ice and snow.

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Carolinas Yam Festival

In the Sweet Potato Capital of the World

TABOR CITY, N. C.

OCTOBER 14, 15, and 16, 1948



21 EXHIBITS ON THE SWEET POTATO

Prepared by Leading North Carolina Experts

BREEDING
SEED SELECTION
SEED TREATMENT
PLANT BEDS AND BEDDING
FERTILIZATION
SOIL SELECTION
PLANTING
CULTIVATION
INSECTS AND DISEASES

HARVESTING AND CURING
DISPLAY OF ADULT ENTRIES
DISPLAY OF YOUTH ENTRIES
GRADING, WASHING, WAXING
PACKING AND LOADING
CONSUMPTION DISPLAY
UTILIZATION
CONSUMER PREFERENCE
INFORMATION

Yam Ball, October 14, featuring the music of the Larry Clinton Orchestra and the crowning of the Sweet Potato Queen.

Square Dance, October 16, featuring the music of Slim Mims and his Dream Ranch Boys.

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— for Best Sweet Potato Dish
— for Most Unusual Sweet Potato Dish

Auction of Valuable Merchandise using "Yam Currency" (to be distributed during Festival)



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CAROLINAS YAM FESTIVAL

Box 321

Tabor City, N. C.

The Carolina Farmer

Carolinas Only Independent Farm Magazine



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James W. Butler
J. M. McCullers
Robert S. Curtis

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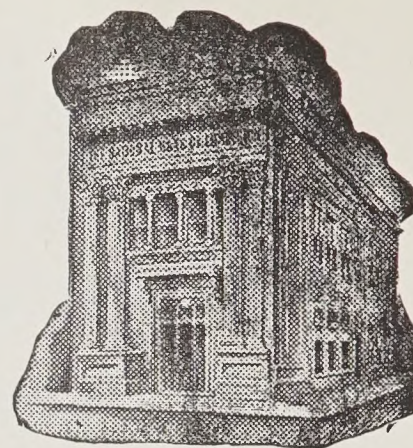
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OUR FRONT COVER

It's Fair Time in North Carolina, and all over the State fairs and festivals
and being held to celebrate a bountiful harvest
and a job well done.

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GREENSBORO, N. C.



Reports from . . .

Our Nation's Capital

By J. E. JONES

NEARLY everything in our own country from the potato patch, the meat market and store counters is sold at inflationary prices.

The American Government, after January, will face the same problems that are bearing down upon us this early Fall. Right now, you and your neighbors, and everybody else's neighbors, are hoping that there will be a rare quality of statesmanship in the United States in the coming year. It is a hope to be worked out. The great problems are international obstacles that will hang like a shroud over the civilization of the world.

We're Ready for the Bears

The United States Air Force has reported to the Administration that it is "prepared for any emergency and immediately capable of rapid expansion" in the event of war. Sure, we can lick 'em. Who? Stalin, Molotov and Company.

There is a general belief in Washington that Russia is weak, without military strength. One top analysis in Washington is to the effect that Stalin would not dare to start a war now, and that the trend in Moscow is toward isolation. But the Communists continue their diabolical schemes to prevent the restoration of peace and self-government in different parts of Europe.

Evidently there are a lot of Reds in the United States. And that is a weak spot in our own government—especially inasmuch as President Truman has refused to turn over to Congress the facts about Communists who have been investigated by the Administration.

Food Costs Don't Make Sense

What's everybody talking about these days? Dollars to doughnuts it's about food—the high cost of food. During the war years most of us were primarily concerned with shortages and rationing, understandable problems. But now with food plentiful, with everyday necessities sky-high and out of reach of the average income, the situation does not make sense.

One of the few products which has held a steady grip on prices has been margarine. Despite rationing and the shortage of oils and then the high cost of oils, margarine prices have in-

creased very little compared with other food products. Now as in the past it sells at retail stores at less than one-half the price of butter. And to further assure the finest product at the lowest price, Best Foods who manufacture Nucoa margarine, continue their "bowl mix" method of adding the yellow color wafer because it brings to the consumer the best textured product for less money. And the "bowl mix" is just as fast a way of getting a delicate, smooth color as any other method.

Of course, rightfully, margarine should be colored in the churn. Soon it is hoped that a fair-minded Congress will repeal antedated laws restricting this procedure and thus give to the American homemaker delicious and nutritious margarine the way she wants it—yellow.

Crowding Into the Cities

The population of the United States at the present time is 146,116,000. There is a notable shift that shows an increased population in industrial centers and resort areas away from agricultural regions. There is a real boom on the Pacific Coast that shows an increase in population of 45 per cent in California, 49 per cent in Oregon, 40 per cent in Washington, 35 per cent in Arizona, 28 per cent in Nevada. In Florida and the District of Columbia there is an increase of 29 per cent in each case. The only slumps reported were 6 per cent in South Dakota, 2 per cent in Kansas, 3 per cent in Mississippi and 12 per cent in Montana.

Strangely enough, the growth of U. S. population for the year just ended has been about double the prewar rate.

Births exceeded deaths by 2,242,000 over last year.

Peace Hangs in the Balance

Everything that can be done to provide the peoples of the globe with materials, knowledge, and ability to utilize the abundance that is available is of utmost importance if we are going to establish peace on a permanent basis.

Topping the list of needed items is food. We are happily sharing our food with peoples in destitute countries, and it is causing us no hardships.

Second on the list is petroleum. Here also we are contributing as much as possible and doing it to the extent that it is hurting—not economically so much as physically.

In Europe, millions striving for independence both politically and economically need oil for their very existence. One American company has been working for fifteen years to alleviate this situation by tapping the lush field of Saudi Arabia. Until recently progress has been up to expectation, but conflict and other obstacles have materialized to stop development of a sorely needed pipe line that would bring the oil 1,070 miles overland to the Mediterranean Sea. This line, which will deliver 300,000 barrels of oil a day, is already well underway, but a recent decision by the Department of Commerce halted export of materials vital to the completion of this project.

Much less material is required to finish this job than would be needed to build the number of tankers required to deliver a similar amount.

It is obvious that this life-sustaining line should be completed. And more importantly, prime consideration should be given this job because in the balance hangs the peace of the world.

Seeing Stalin

The newspapers almost daily report that there will be more conferences between Stalin and fellow-traveler Molotov, by the British, French and American diplomats.

And you can put this in your pipe and smoke it: Those Russians aren't going to come to terms. A lot of people think that they are trying to stir up war, and just as many others think they are stalling.

The German newspapers in the Western zones are publishing editorials to the effect that there is no possibility of a satisfactory solution to come out of the conferences between the Russians, and American, British and French diplomats.

Steel Still a Bottle-Neck

An authentic report in Washington says, "If the demand stays at present levels steel will be scarce until mid-1950." It adds that the "market for iron and steel is thriving with small business concerns hurt most."

Ships Have Passed in the Night

A great number of ships that went to sea during the war never came back. The routes they traveled have been wiped out by the airways. The indications are that the planes have taken over most of the ocean passenger business.

Sweet Potatoes Are Proving

By FRED J. HURST

Farm Credit Administration, New Orleans, La.

Reprinted from

BETTER CROPS with PLANT FOOD MAGAZINE

FOR thousands of southern farmers the long search for a crop to supplement cotton, produce more food, and improve income has ended. In the production of Unit One Porto Rico sweet potatoes, farmers have found a veritable gold mine. At the same time they are heaping up the nation's food supply and pouring new wealth into the channels of trade.

The richest "strike" has been in Louisiana. Production of sweet potatoes in the Bayou State is now big business. Marketings from the 1945 crop by truck and rail will total more than 6,000,000 bushels. Up to January 30, rail shipments alone totaled 6,356 carloads. Hundreds of thousands of bushels have been moved by truck. And hundreds of storage houses are still packed with potatoes. The volume now moving to market is

What happened in Louisiana can also happen in North Carolina. This article written in 1945 is still so timely and full of valuable suggestions that we are reprinting it now for the benefit of potential sweet potato growers in North Carolina.—EDITOR.

limited only by the number of railroad cars available. Marketings will continue until June.

In addition, more than 25,000,000 pounds of dehydrated sweet potatoes have been exported under Lend-lease or shipped to American servicemen overseas. Large quantities of cull potatoes have been fed on the farm. The 1945 Louisiana crop is estimated at over 10,000,000 bushels, a gain of 2,724,000 bushels over the 1944 harvest.

Several other states produce about as many sweet potatoes as Louisiana, but the bulk of the crop is consumed on farms. Of the 9,832 carloads of sweet potatoes shipped to market from 15 states up to January 30, Louisiana shipped 6,356, or more than all the other states combined.

Through most of November and all of December and January, U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 1 and No. 2 mixed sweet potatoes sold at the ceiling price of \$3.08 per bushel f.o.b. shipping point, and growers could not supply the demand.

With yields ranging from 150 to 250 bushels per acre in the commercial producing areas like Lafayette, St. Landry, West Feliciana, and West Carroll Parishes, a veritable stream

of gold was pouring into the State. At Sunset, for example, a small town of 500 people in St. Landry Parish, local bank deposits passed the \$3,000,000 mark, business flourished, and farmers were prosperous. In many other communities, the story is the same.

At St. Francisville, Opelousas, Sunset, and Carencro, Louisiana; Cullman, Alabama; and Perry, Georgia, dehydrating plants turned out sweet potato feed that found a ready market and met a local need for more carbohydrate feed. Experienced growers on adapted land are producing a good cash crop of No. 1 sweet potatoes for direct shipment to market, selling No. 2's to local plants for processing for food, and then harvesting cull potatoes equivalent to the feed value of an acre of corn.

The dehydrated potato feed is palatable, nutritious, easy to store, not subject to weevil injury and deterioration, and is high in vitamin content.

Feeding tests conducted by the Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia experiment stations show that dried sweet potatoes are about equal to corn in feeding value. These results have led research authorities to predict that in a few years dehydrating plants for drying sweet potatoes will become as common as cotton gins and southern farmers will produce more of their needed carbohydrate feed.

During the past harvesting and marketing season, we visited the main commercial sweet potato growing areas in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. On the 2,500-mile trip we talked with farmers, county agents, shippers, processors, and experiment station workers about growing, harvesting, processing, feeding, and marketing sweet potatoes.

All across these states everyone agreed that the need for greater farm diversification, the wartime demand for food, the breeding of better varieties, the development of modern methods of processing, and especially improvements in marketing and higher prices had brought farmers to a realization of the possibilities of sweet potatoes, where suitable soil is available and the crop is properly fitted in

with other farm enterprises to provide desirable crop rotations and spread work throughout the whole year.

In all of the commercial areas, farmers are increasing production of sweet potatoes for food, for feed, and for industry. Growers and shippers are building more curing houses. More dehydration plants will be established in 1946. New mammoth size canning plants will be built. Producers are organizing to make further improvements in production and marketing. Whole counties and parishes are growing a single variety to produce more uniform, higher quality sweet potatoes. Some shippers have already tried marketing sweet potatoes in open mesh five-pound bags. The innovation has proved popular with city housewives.

Last year a \$7,000,000 starch factory was built at Clewiston, Florida. Owners of one of the largest distilleries in the United States, who cooperated with Louisiana State University in testing the value of sweet potatoes for producing alcohol, announced that 56 pounds of dehydrated Porto Rico sweet potatoes produced 4.95 gallons of 190-proof alcohol, and 56 pounds of Pelican Processor, a high starch variety, produced 5.44 gallons of 190-proof alcohol which graded higher than grain alcohol.

Louisiana State University found golden yellow sweet potato meal an excellent mix for making ice cream. The potato meal added plenty of rich color and increased the vitamin content of the cream. At Auburn, Alabama, where the experiment station established a small pilot plant and pioneered in making breakfast foods and other commercial products from sweet potatoes, a private company is now manufacturing sweet potato-cocanut candy on a commercial scale. All of these developments indicate the growing importance of sweet potatoes in southern postwar agriculture and industry.

For the most spectacular development of sweet potatoes as a money crop, we cite the record of West Carroll Parish, Louisiana. In 1942 a few growers around Oak Grove were

New Gold for the South

induced to plant a few acres of sweet potatoes for market. They produced and sold \$10,000 worth of potatoes. The per acre return was high.

In 1943, more farmers planted sweet potatoes. The acreage and production were increased. Sales of sweet potatoes jumped to \$90,000. With two years of satisfactory returns behind them and an urgent wartime demand facing them, more farmers planted sweet potatoes in 1944. Marketings climbed to \$250,000.

In the meantime, the Warriner Starch Company of St. Francisville built a 400,000-bushel capacity storage house at Oak Grove and in 1945 contracted with 1,040 farmers to grow around 5,000 acres of sweet potatoes. The crop brought growers approximately \$1,000,000. Davie Pierce, business leader of Oak Grove and sponsor of the sweet potato program, reported that 23,000 acres of cotton in the parish brought producers only \$1,500,000.

At the height of the marketing season it was impossible for Warriner Starch Company to handle promptly all of the sweet potatoes delivered to their storage plant, and wagons and

as much money from an acre of sweet potatoes as he made from an acre of cotton.

In each of four years Wesley made more net money from sweet potatoes than from cotton. In 1945 he had 5 acres in potatoes and 7 acres in cotton. His No. 1 potatoes from 5 acres brought him \$1,870; cotton from 7 acres brought him \$878. He still has his No. 2 potatoes to sell.

And there is the story of Mee Stanford, who produced and sold \$1,600 worth of cotton from 14 acres, but who pocketed \$2,100 from sales of sweet potatoes from 7 acres.

How Many Acres?

The problem in West Carroll Parish now is to keep farmers from planting too large an acreage in sweet potatoes. Growers are urged not to plant more than one-fourth to one-third of their cultivated land in sweet potatoes and not to plant potatoes on the same land more than once in three years.

The growers are planting Unit One Porto Rieo and Queen Mary, superior varieties developed by Dr. Miller, and

be established in each of the five wards of the parish to place them close to farmers and reduce the length of the haul. The company also plans to build a large sweet potato canning plant at Oak Grove.

In West Feliciana Parish growers last year produced a half million bushels of sweet potatoes for market. The Warriner Starch Company with two large storage houses and food and feed dehydrating units and a canning factory at St. Francisville, and storage and shipping facilities at Epps, Jonesboro, and Oak Grove, Louisiana, and Eudora, Arkansas, marketed several hundred cars of No. 1 sweet potatoes, dehydrated 21,000,000 pounds of No. 2 potatoes for food, canned thousands of bushels, and processed a lot of culls for feed. Other buyers at St. Francisville offered needed competition in maintaining price levels.

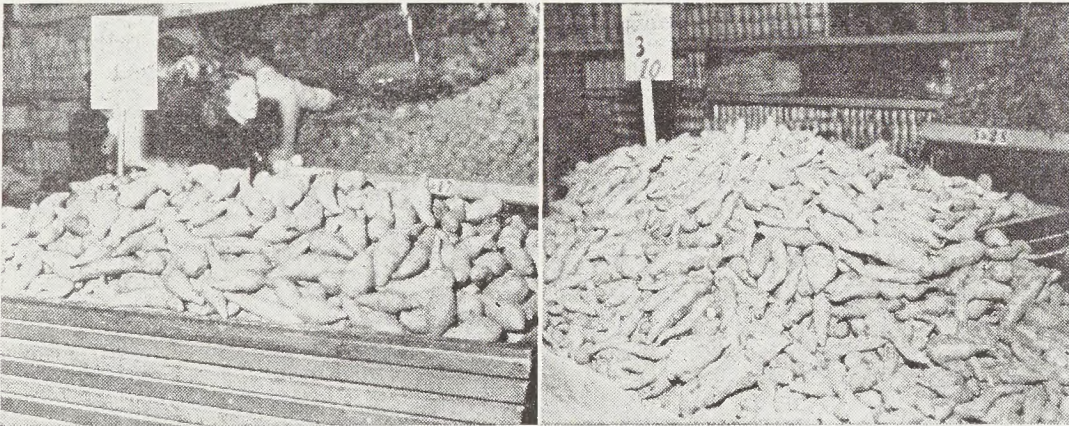
St. Landry with 32,000 acres was the leading parish in Louisiana. At Opelousas, J. F. Dezauche, who has facilities for storing two million bushels of potatoes and operates a canning factory and dehydrating food and feed plants, bought 100,000,000 pounds of potatoes. He shipped potatoes in carload lots all over the United States.

Mr. Dezauche, who has been handling sweet potatoes for 35 years, emphasizes the importance of uniformity and high quality, which he says have been largely responsible for the fine reputation of and demand for Louisiana sweet potatoes.

The value of a strong farm cooperative in maintaining satisfactory prices not only for its own members but for other farmers within the range of the co-op's influence, was again demonstrated in 1945 by the Sweet Potato Cooperative at Carencro. This association consistently paid its members more money for potatoes than buyers who did not have the competition offered by a producers' association.

The demand for the storage and marketing service given by the Carencro Cooperative reached a point in 1945 that forced the association to limit its membership, even after expanding its facilities. The association bought additional land, provided more storage space, doubled the size of the packing shed, and installed a dehydrating plant for processing cull potatoes for feed.

The association has the latest equipment for washing and waxing, grading, packing, labeling, loading, and shipping potatoes. The cooperative last year sold 240 carloads for over \$300,000 and made savings of \$31,470



ALL GRADES OF SWEET POTATOES FIND A READY MARKET

trucks blocked the town as growers waited to weigh and unload their potatoes. A big buyer in Texas who had a contract with the Government to dehydrate a lot of sweet potatoes was called in to help. Railroad cars were placed at all loading stations in the parish, potatoes were loaded in the cars in bulk, and in a few days the situation was relieved.

Mr. Pierce likes to tell the story of Wesley Parker, a sharecropper of Pioneer, Louisiana. Wesley is said to be one of the best farmers in the parish. But he believed in sticking to cotton. To get him to try sweet potatoes his landlord had to guarantee Wesley that he would at least make

they are following the recommendations of the state experiment station in planting, fertilizing, cultivating, and harvesting. Much of the soil in the parish is well suited to production of sweet potatoes, and the producers use 400 to 600 pounds of 4-12-4 or 4-12-8 fertilizer per acre to get high yields. The liberal application of high analysis fertilizers is one of the most profitable practices in producing sweet potatoes. The use of right amounts of potash is especially important.

One concern alone plans to install five dehydrating plants in West Carroll Parish in 1946 to dehydrate cull sweet potatoes for feed. A plant will

before the payment of dividends on preferred stock.

The cooperative buys crates in car-load lots from the cooperative box factory at Hammond. It also handles feed and fertilizer for its members, making substantial savings in this respect. Membership of the association increased from 60 in 1943 to 250 in 1945. The association has been financed by the New Orleans Bank for Cooperatives.

The Ossum Farmers Cooperative at Scott, Louisiana, also has been highly successful. This cooperative handled 100 cars of sweet potatoes during the first season in 1944 and made net savings of \$10,128. It paid a 6 per cent dividend on preferred stock and credited the remainder to the members on a patronage basis.

Another producers' cooperative association which is making a good record is the Sweet Potato Growers, Incorporated, at Lowell, Mississippi, where around 1,000 members of the association and 600 4-H Club boys sold a half million dollars' worth of potatoes from the 1945 crop. When we visited the cooperative early in November, the dehydrating plant was being operated at full capacity, two big curing houses were filled, other available storage space was packed, and deliveries to the plant had been temporarily halted.

W. M. Crumpton, general manager, said the cooperative would dehydrate 1,375,000 pounds of potatoes under Government contract and 250,000 pounds for the commercial trade.

The association was paying growers \$42 per ton for grade 1 and grade 2 potatoes, plus an allowance for hauling. The amount of this allowance depended on the distance of the haul. Growers in Pike County, about 100 miles away, were paid \$48.50 per ton. The association furnished crates.

Beginning in January No. 1 cured sweet potatoes will be graded and marketed. The cooperative has installed brushing, washing and waxing, grading and loading equipment.

The association is pioneering in marketing 40,000 bushels of carefully graded, high quality sweet potatoes in 5-pound open mesh bags through chain stores in Laurel, Hattiesburg, Jackson, and New Orleans. It is believed that this method of marketing will help to popularize sweet potatoes and increase the demand by consumers.

Another contribution to improved sweet potato production has been the work of 600 4-H Club boys in 12 counties. The club members, who have worked under direction of state

and county extension agents and according to specifications of a written agreement with the association, have produced Unit One Porto Rico sweet potatoes in quantity for seed to help standardize this variety, simplify marketing, and get a higher price. They also demonstrated recommended practices in the production and harvesting of sweet potatoes. Representatives of the extension service and the association assisted the 4-H boys in giving 35 bedding and harvesting demonstrations.

Under the agreement, the cooperative furnished the boys with seed potatoes and served as marketing agent, accepting, storing, curing, grading, packing, and selling the potatoes.

The most efficient feed dehydrating plant we visited was at Perry, Georgia. It is one of three pilot plants built by Cleaver-Brooks Company of Milwaukee, which spent practically a year improving and perfecting the dehydrating equipment which is installed in a concrete, tile, and steel building. The plant is operated 16



SALES APPEAL—AND HOW!

hours a day with two crews of four men each. It turns out a ton of dry feed per hour.

Sweet potatoes were dehydrated for producers for one-third toll. Three tons of raw potatoes produced about one ton of dried potato feed. Farmers with whom we talked said they were pleased with the results. Livestock liked the feed.

R. T. Tuggle, a successful farmer near Perry, told us that he had 20 acres in sweet potatoes in 1945. He harvested and sold 2,250 bushels for market at an average price of \$1.40 per bushel. The buyer furnished crates and picked up the potatoes at the end of the rows.

After selling \$157.50 worth of sweet potatoes per acre, Mr. Tuggle hauled 45,000 pounds of cull potatoes to the processing plant for drying. He was feeding the potato meal to both hogs and beef cattle with satisfactory results.

Georgia agricultural officials are proposing the establishment of 365 plants similar to the one at Perry which will dry any kind of feed crop. Each plant would handle the production from 2,500 acres of crops planted preferably within a radius of five miles of the plant.

The plants would furnish all harvesting equipment and harvesting crews, harvest, haul, and dehydrate the crops and deliver the cured product back to the farm. Crops to be grown would include kudzu, alfalfa, soybeans, cowpeas, lespedeza, sweet potatoes, and sorghum.

Each plant would cost about \$28,000 for buildings and dehydrator, \$6,600 for harvesting and hauling equipment, with about \$15,000 needed for operating capital. Such plants could be built and operated by individuals, partnerships, corporations, or cooperatives.

Much of the value of the plants would come from harvesting and dehydrating crops in the green stage regardless of weather conditions and when the feed value of the plants is at the highest point. Under field conditions farmers frequently suffer heavy losses when crops mature during rainy periods. Forage crops may become too mature and woody, many of the leaves may be lost, and the entire crop damaged by rotting or bleaching.

Dehydration makes possible the harvesting of an entire crop without loss and when it is worth the most.

Turn Off the Current Before Pouring Water On Electrical Fires

That first impulse to pour water on a fire when it breaks out in the home is not always the wisest. John Steele, extension agricultural engineer, says that it is unwise to pour water on a fire when it is in or around electrical equipment. Never use water or other fire extinguishing equipment until the electric current is cut off at the switch, he cautions.

It is just good fire sense to make certain that every member of the family knows where the main switch to the electric system is and how to "throw" or "pull" it to "dead" the wiring system in case of emergency.

Once the electricity is turned off, the fire can be treated by the proper extinguisher. It is well to remember that wires inside motors and other electrical equipment are covered with tarry material which burns much like an oily rag. Fire fighting around electric equipment should take this fact into consideration.

N. C. STATE FAIR OFFERS \$25,000 IN PREMIUMS

PLANS have been completed for the 1948 State Fair, to be held October 19-23 at the fair grounds just west of Raleigh, and Dr. J. S. Dorton, manager of the annual exposition, is looking for record-breaking crowds.

"If we get a good break on the weather," he said, "it won't surprise me if the attendance this year approaches half a million people. Reports from all over the state indicate that there is more interest in the fair than at any time since before the war."

A number of new events have been added to the five-day program this year, including an exhibition by Indians from the Cherokee reservation in the Great Smoky Mountains, a Folk Festival which is expected to attract more than 500 entries—string bands, singers and square dance teams—and the 200-bushel corn contest with a \$1,000 prize offered the winner.

Approximately \$25,000 is offered in agricultural premiums, Dorton said, and indications point to splendid exhibits and keen competition in the various contests.

As usual, there will be horse races, sanctioned by the U. S. Trotting Association, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons; daily grandstand revues staged by the famous George A. Hamid; fireworks each evening;

Jack Kochman's Hell Drivers on Wednesday afternoon, and auto races Saturday afternoon.

The Great midway will offer a wide variety of entertainment—25 rides and 23 shows—under the management of the James E. Strate's Shows, appearing for the first time at the North Carolina State Fair.

The opening day—Tuesday, October 19—has been designated Wake County School Day—and Friday will be Young North Carolinians' Day. Free tickets for these days will be issued school children.

Folk Festival To Be Held

A new entertainment feature—one that always gets a big hand in North Carolina—has been added to the program for this year's State Fair. It will be a folk festival, with old time music and square dancing, to be conducted by Bascom Lamar Lunsford, known far and wide as "the minstrel of the Appalachians."

For a long time Dr. J. S. Dorton, State Fair manager, hunted for a home-talent event to supplement the professional performances staged in front of the big grandstand. Then he met Lunsford, the singing, dancing, guitar-strumming lawyer from Turkey Creek, Buncombe county, the man who originated the Mountain Dance and

Folk Festival at Asheville and the Carolina Folk Festival at Chapel Hill.

The two of them got their heads together and came up with plans for the State Fair Folk Festival and Dr. Dorton persuaded Lunsford to take the job of master of ceremonies. While details of the folk festival program are not yet complete, Lunsford said there will be contests for choirs, bands, square dance teams and individual performers.

Nobody knows the state's talent in these lines better than Lunsford, who spent a lifetime roaming the highways and byways of North Carolina studying the ballads and folk customs of



Some of the pure-bred cattle on display at the N. C. State Fair

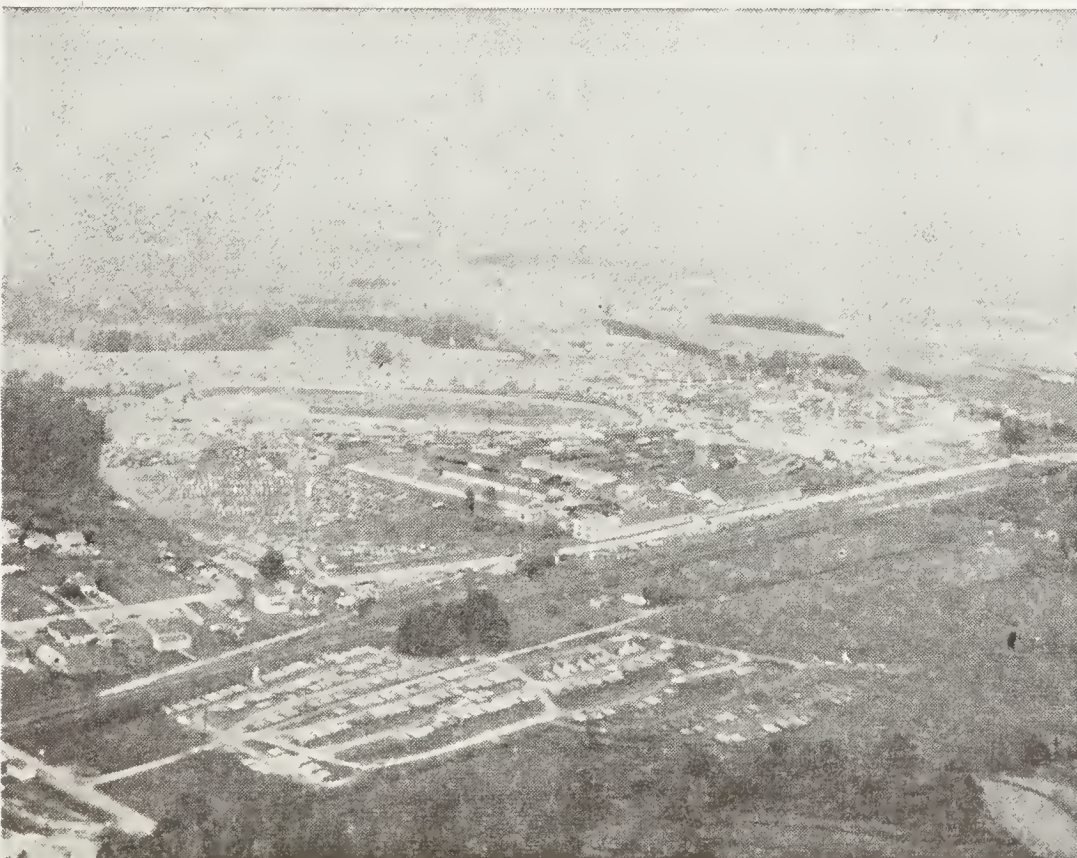
the people. Already he has been in contact with some of the best dance teams and string bands in the state and he says they are enthusiastic over the idea of a State Fair Folk Festival.

"We'll have at least 500 people on hand to take part in the various events," he said, "and there will be music and dancing every day of the fair. Enough events are planned to keep a good show going most of the time between the professional acts in front of the grandstand."

Fantasies of 1948

A grandiose Broadway revue, The Fantasies of 1948, will be the featured grandstand entertainment at the North Carolina State Fair. Lovely girls, gorgeous scenery and lighting effects and catchy tunes make this the outstanding of a long run of Fantasy productions.

To begin with there are five top flight chorus presentations, all featuring 18 girls, with long training in the terpsichorean art, in the line. First there is the Boogie Train number, a fantastic, imaginative modern interpretation set to currently popular music. The emphasis is on beauty in both the Sequin Fan and Vi Lite Hoop numbers. The thousands of brilliant, reflective sequins adorning the fans send their beacons of lighting flitting through the audience so as to create the illusion of a mass invasion



AERIAL VIEW OF STATE FAIR GROUNDS AT RALEIGH, N. C.

of fireflies. Special lighting, created for the Vi Lite number, makes possible one of the most unusual chorus routines ever seen on any stage.

Precision is accented in the Parade of the Wooden Soldiers number. The colorful military-like uniforms worn by the 18 girls as they go through their remarkable routine create the illusion that the audience is viewing a crack competitive drill unit. Unusual novelty is injected into the finale, a skating number. All of the girls, in addition to being accomplished dancers have been trained to championship form as roller skaters. As a result they perform their finale

group routine with the same precision which marks their efforts in dancing shoes. The usually unwieldy skates have been well mastered by the girls who whiz through the most complicated routines with the greatest of ease.

Directing the on-stage activities of the largely peopled revue is Jack Olsen, a well known master of ceremonies. Not only can he handle a microphone with the sureness of a network radio announcer, he can also warble the lyrics of popular songs with the catchy, swooning appeal that sends teen-age audiences away humming the tunes.

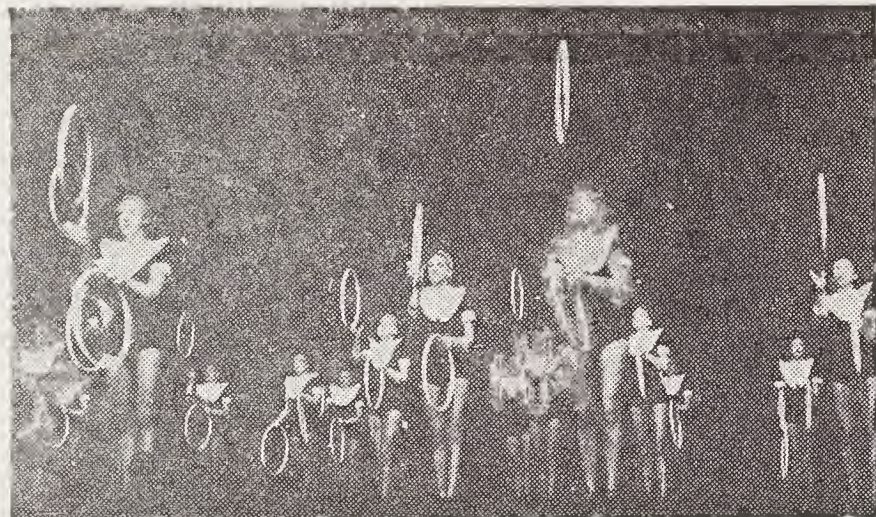
Variety is amply provided for with the appearance of the Spalding Trio consisting of two girls, red headed twins, and a male partner, and Don and Jerry, a clever two-man dance team. The appearance of these two dance acts, as well as emcee Jack Olsen, keeps the revue going at a rapid pace in a highly entertaining manner. The musical chores are expertly handled by Charles Basile, band leader.

The Fantasies, large and packed with action, could tax the facilities of the largest New York stages. It was produced and is being presented by George A. Hamid, the nation's foremost booker of outdoor entertainment.

Whew! Where Do They Get All That Money?

A dependable unofficial estimate of our Federal Government for all purposes in the year ahead will be about 43 billion dollars, against 38½ billion in the year just past. So save your money and have it on the spot when the tax collector demands you to turn it over.

More than 7,000 gallons of water are required in the average farm kitchen annually. Electricity can be "hired" to pump and carry it for only a few cents a week.



A scene from the fascinating stage show at the State Fair

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Mary Had A Little Cold

By DOUGLAS WAKEFIELD COUTLEE

"WHAT was Miss Alderson's mother," my secretary reported as she replaced the telephone receiver. "Miss Alderson is ill and she won't be in today."

"What's the trouble this time," I queried, "another cold?"

"Yes," answered my secretary, "her mother said that Mary had a little cold and a little fever and that it would be wise for her to stay in bed for a couple of days."

"Doesn't Miss Alderson have quite a few colds and isn't she losing weight?" I asked.

"Yes," said my secretary, "she never seems to get rid of a cold and the other girls have noticed how thin she is getting, too. The trouble is, she says she has no appetite, and when we go to luncheon together she doesn't eat enough to keep a bird alive."

This conversation took place one morning in the office of a manufacturing concern with which I was associated a number of years ago. In those days, industrial plant-health departments had not developed to the important place they occupy today, and physical examinations prior to employment and periodic check-ups on the health of employees were mandatory procedures in only a few large organizations.

Our company did have a first-aid department, however, with a competent physician and nurse in attendance; and the equipment included an X-ray machine which was used primarily to check in the possibility of broken bones in those cases where factory workers sustained arm or leg injuries while on duty. Although routine check-ups on employees was not a company rule at that time, the plant physician was well qualified to make a complete physical examination of an employee if requested to do so; and so I decided to speak to him about Mary Alderson.

I did speak to him, then my secretary took Mary to luncheon and, at an appropriate moment, suggested

that they both go to the company physician for a physical check-up. After some hesitation, Mary agreed, and the two girls went over to the first-aid department for an examination. A few days later, the company doctor had another talk with Mary. He told her that he would like her to make an appointment with her family physician and that he would talk to him by telephone about a condition which he thought should be given immediate attention. The "condition" was *tuberculosis*, and it had been clearly indicated by a chest X-ray during his examination of Mary and confirmed by tests made later.

The sad part of the story is that Mary's condition was not discovered in time. Although she received the best of care—at home for several weeks and later in a hospital—and although she had the benefit of a specialist, whose services were paid for by the president of the company, complications developed which caused her death.

The hopeful note in this unfortunate episode is that Mary's brother, a factory foreman with the same company and a married man with two small children, finally admitted that he had not been feeling well for some time and asked the family doctor to examine him.

After a thorough examination, including a chest X-ray, it was found that he, too, had tuberculosis, but that the disease was far less advanced than his sister's. He obtained a leave of absence and entered a sanatorium where he received the best medical care. Within less than a year, he was able to rejoin his family and resume his work.

The obvious point of this story is that tuberculosis is bad *business*—and *bad for business*. That's one reason why leading business men who recognize the fact have established plant-health departments in their organizations which are completely equipped with modern diagnostic apparatus and staffed with competent physicians,

nurses, and technicians. Today, as a result of periodic examinations of employees, infectious and killing diseases such as tuberculosis are discovered in time to respond to modern medical treatment, including the use of streptomycin and other antibiotic and chemotherapeutic agents, thereby saving thousands of lives and millions of dollars each year.

But although tuberculosis has now dropped from first to seventh place as a cause of death in the United States, the final victory over this dread disease has not yet been attained. Tuberculosis still kills about 50,000 people a year, and more people between the ages of 15 and 44 than any other disease. At 1943 prices, tuberculosis cost American industry \$348,000,000 worth of goods that might have been produced by TB patients. It cost taxpayers \$174,000,000 for TB hospital maintenance, and it cost TB patients \$181,000,000 in lost wages.

Yet we can wipe out this disease! And that is why the Advertising Council, working in cooperation with the National Tuberculosis Association and the U. S. Public Health Service, now is conducting a national campaign to impress upon people everywhere the vital importance of getting their chests X-rayed. This campaign deserves the support of every company in the country through the sponsorship of "Fight Tuberculosis" advertisements, and of every individual through the purchase and use of Christmas Seals.

Since 1904, the National Tuberculosis Association and its voluntary affiliated organizations in every state have waged a ceaseless and effective campaign to wipe out tuberculosis. The Christmas Seal is the friendly yet potent symbol of this important public health campaign.

When electrically supplied running water is available, cows produce from 10 to 20 per cent more milk containing from 6 to 12 per cent more butterfat. An extra pint of milk a day pays the electrical power cost for a large herd. The automatic water system eliminates pumping and carrying water—a big saving in labor.

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WOOL POOL

Arrangements have been completed assuring North Carolina sheep growers an opportunity to sell their wool again this year on a grade basis through a cooperative wool pool, it was announced this week by R. S. Curtis, State Department of Agriculture marketing specialist.

The Department of Agriculture and the State College Extension Service are co-operating in the wool marketing program, Curtis said, in an effort to help growers make a profit on sheep, and thus encourage greater interest in sheep production, a declining industry in this state for the past generation.

The pool will be sponsored in the eastern and Piedmont areas by the Farmers Cooperative Exchange, which has designated 39 FCX stores as wool receiving points, and in the western part of the state by the Farmers Cooperative Association with headquarters in Asheville. The FCX also will collect wool at eight stores in South Carolina.

The week of July 12-17 has been designated by the FCX as the time for sheep growers to deliver their wool. The following week it will be transferred to central warehouses at Clayton and Statesville, where it will be graded by independent graders, packed in standard wool bags and shipped. Final disposition will be made through the United Wool Growers Association at Harrisonburg, Va.

Curtis warned farmers not to tie their wool with binder twine, but to use paper twine which is obtainable at FCX stores. Wool tied with binder twine, he pointed out, is usually discounted in price. He also advised farmers to roll fleece with the flesh side out, to tie each fleece separately, to keep wool free from trash, dirt and moisture, and pack each kind separately.

Approximately 70,000 pounds of wool was handled by the FCX in last year's pool, Curtis said, and an even greater quantity is anticipated this year.

Pitt Farmers Stress Production of Hogs

Pitt county farmers are placing emphasis on better hog production during 1948, reports Jack Kelley, animal husbandry specialist for the State College Extension Service.

Last year the county stressed corn production, with civic organizations of Greenville sponsoring a corn growing contest. Now, under the leadership of County Agent S. C. Winchester and Assistant Agent W. H. Pruden, farmers will give special attention to hog production as the best method of marketing their corn, Mr. Kelley said.

The same civic groups will sponsor several 4-H pig projects in the county



Carolina Dairy and



this year. The agents are working with several of the purebred breeders to develop better hogs so that foundation stock can be furnished to the commercial growers in the county, making it unnecessary for them to go out of the county to buy breeding stock.

Mr. Kelley said the county already has a good pasture program which includes crimson clover, rye grass, and small grains for winter grazing and Ladino clover for year-round grazing.

Among the purebred breeders in Pitt are Joe Moyer of Farmville, a Duroc breeder and the only man in the State who has purchased two \$1,000 boars; C. H. Carraway of Farmville and Marvin T. Barnhill of Stokes, both Berkshire breeders; and H. T. Smith of Fountain, another Duroc breeder. Last year Mr. Smith entered his sows in the Production Registry program. The sows farrowed an average of 24 pigs each and raised 19 pigs each from the two litters, with the heaviest litter weighing 412 pounds. Four of the five sows qualified in the Production Registry with the required weight of 320 pounds or more per litter. Mr. Smith sold 63 hogs last year for breeding purposes, and he expects to increase that number this year.

Cautions Are Listed For Electrical Fences

Electric fences take their toll of human lives every year. Most victims are children. Also, many animals are killed.

H. M. Ellis, in charge of Extension agricultural engineering at State College, says fence casualties can be reduced by following a few simple but important rules. He lists some of the safety rules recommended by the National Safety Council:

Do not use home-made electric fence controllers; they are not safe!

No fence should be energized from any electric source except through an approved controller, one that meets the safety standards of a recognized agency.

See that the controller is installed properly with good ground and lightning protection.

Do not tamper with the controller. If it needs servicing return it to the manufacturer or have repairs made by a factory-authorized representative.

Teach children not to tamper or play with an electric fence.

Avoid locating an electric fence where

the charged wire and a good ground such as a pipe line, pump, stock tank, pond, irrigation ditch, or other normally wet ground can be contacted at the same time.

Energize a continuous fence from only one controller. Do not use a controller in case of emergency.

Connect controller only to the type of power source for which it is designed.

Identify electric fences, especially those near buildings, property lines, or roads with prominent signs.

Provide insulated gate grips for opening and closing gates.

If anyone in the community is using a home-made or unsafe electric fence installation, try to have it removed and warn other of the danger. Remember, there are no rules that will make a home-made controller safe!

Producers Are Urged To Increase Pig Crop

The nation needs more pigs. Growers are being urged by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to increase production this fall by at least 10 per cent to provide a minimum of 34,400,000 pigs—3,000,000 more than the total produced in the fall of 1947. These pigs would be marketed as hogs in the spring and summer of 1949.

Officials also pointed out that with prospective smaller output of other meats and continued high consumer demand in 1949, an increase of even more than 10 per cent in the 1948 fall pig crop would be desirable. Individual producers having favorable conditions are urged, therefore, to expand farrowing by more than the 10 per cent increase requested as a national goal.

The increase sought in 1948 fall pigs, together with a large spring pig crop in 1949 would help to offset the declines expected in the output of beef, veal, lamb and mutton in 1949, and to keep the total supply of all meats from falling below about 140 pounds per capita for U. S. consumers. This compares with 143 to 146 pounds per capita available this year and a 35-year peak of about 155 in 1947.

A more favorable hog-fed ratio is in prospect for 1948-49 than during the past several months. Prices of feed grains are expected to be somewhat lower in the 1948-49 feeding year which begins next October, and there is the further prospect that hog prices will continue relatively high.

Livestock Section..



Baby Beef Work Leads To Breeding Business

The number of North Carolina 4-H Club boys and girls who have graduated from baby beef work into the breeding cattle business now runs into the hundreds, according to L. I. Case, in charge of Extension animal husbandry of State College.

"Don't let anybody tell you that this baby beef club work isn't doing a lot of good," Mr. Case commented. "I don't know just how many boys and girls have gone from baby beef work into the breeding business, but I am sure the number runs into the hundreds."

A typical example is that of Burlin Aldrich of Tuskegee, Graham County 4-H Club boy who has been in baby beef work for several years. He now has established a registered herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle with his profits.

In Cleveland County G. E. Wright, Shelby, Route 1, is going into the purebred cattle business with his three sons, Billy, Milton, and Douglas. All of these boys have fed or are now feeding steers as 4-H Club projects. Douglas, the oldest, has graduated from 4-H Club work, and the other two boys are each feeding a steer this year. Inspiration and profits gained in club work have been responsible for their starting a small herd of registered cattle. They have nine head and plan to increase the size of the herd as time goes on.

Mr. Case said similar examples could be found in many parts of the State. The baby beef program, he concluded, has proved to be most worthwhile in every respect.

Swine Disease Is on Increase

Farmers who buy feeder pigs from unknown sources take a chance on getting animals which are not only inferior but also diseased, according to Dr. C. D. Grinnells, professor of veterinary science at State College.

"Swine disease is on the increase. Promiscuous buying of feeder pigs from unknown sources has been a large factor in scattering disease," Dr. Grinnells said. "A good hog man does not have time to roam the country marketing feeder pigs. He practices swine sanitation. Buy your

pigs from him, even though you will have to look him up."

The farmer who buys pigs from an unknown source is likely to get an inferior product to begin with, he explained. In many cases the seller has not practiced good swine sanitation. By experience he has found that with his equipment and methods he can realize a greater return by selling small pigs. Often the animals carry parasites, and have low-grade infections and low resistance to disease.

These conditions, Dr. Grinnells continued, are aggravated by feed changes, lack of water, long hauls, and unsanitary conditions. The pigs are yarded, transported, fed, watered, and often sold with pigs from a number of other sources. The opportunities to spread and to take in infectious materials are numerous. Conditions for the spread of disease are good.

Under these conditions, there is no vaccine that will prevent development of disease. Vaccines recommended to protect against a large number of infections are generally worthless and should not be trusted until tested and proved.

Farmers in Martin Growing More Hogs

Martin County negro farmers are turning to hog production as a practical means of making up income lost through tobacco acreage reduction, reports R. M. Edwards, Negro county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Two farmers, Manison Council of Has-sell and Joe N. Chance of Robersonville, Route 2, recently purchased registered gilts from the Moye Duroc Farm at Farmville. Council's gilt cost \$95 and Chance's, \$175. Both will farrow during the spring. Chance's gilt was sired by the junior boar at the 1946 State Fair and was bred to the Indiana state champion boar.

After losing ten pigs in February by not having a good farrowing house, Chance recently constructed two modern farrowing houses. He says \$175 is too much money to put in a sow and then not prepare for her and the pigs.

The two houses were built from lumber which was wasting. The only cost was for a roof, a few nails, and one day's work.

Two days after the house was completed, one sow farrowed 12 pigs, 11 of

which were saved. This was the first time the sow had saved more than nine. The two extra pigs, Chance says, will more than pay for the cost of the two houses.

Electrical Safety Important on Farm

"The 'killers' and 'firebugs' hiding in electric wires must be kept under control," according to a warning issued by the State College Extension Service. "They may strike without warning. When used safely electricity brings happiness to the entire family and helps take the back-ache out of routine farm chores."

The National Safety Council recommends three steps for electrical safety.

The first step is a safe wiring job. All wiring should be inspected by a qualified inspector certified by the power supplier. Circuits, outlets, and wire sizes should be planned to meet the needs without overloading. Temporary wiring, unnecessary extension cords and other amateurish installations should be avoided. The entire wiring system is no safer than its weakest link.

The second step is good electrical appliances safely installed. When you buy electrical appliances look for the "UL" label signifying that the equipment has been tested and approved as safe by the Underwriters Laboratory. Stationary equipment should be grounded and may require special circuits for safe use. Portable equipment used in damp places should also be grounded.

The third step is safe use and maintenance of the electrical system and appliances. The best wiring and equipment needs some attention now and then. Watch for broken insulators, frayed cords, loose outlets or switches and damaged or worn fixtures. Don't delay repair—it may cost a life. Be sure the electric current is turned off before any repair work is attempted.

Farmers Improve Herds By Artificial Breeding

Artificial cattle breeding has made such rapid progress in North Carolina in recent years that more than 20,000 cows will be bred under the program this year, says J. F. Brown.

At present there are 23 organized artificial breeding associations in the State with a total membership of more than 2,500.

Reports show that in January and February 2,258 cows were bred by 21 associations. Two associations began operating in March, and all others except those in Forsyth, Yadkin, and Davie Counties began in January.

.. The Carolina Homemaker ..

By MISS YORK KIKER, *Home Economist*

FRUIT DESSERTS

We will eat desserts so it is a smart homemaker who makes use of fruits often.

Old-Time Baked Pears

- 6 large, fresh cooking pears
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup molasses
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 2 cups water
- 6 whole cloves
- 2 three-inch sticks cinnamon

Wash pears. Cut a thin slice from bottom end of each pear and stand upright in baking dish. In saucepan cook remaining ingredients together until sugar is dissolved. Pour syrup over pears. Bake 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ hours or until done in moderately slow oven (325 degrees), basting occasionally. Serve hot or cold, plain or with whipped cream. Yield: 6 servings.

Banana Coconut Cream Tarts

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup whipping cream, whipped
- 3 ripe bananas, peeled
- 6 baked 3- $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch tart shells
- 6 tablespoons shredded coconut

Fold sugar and vanilla into whipped cream. Slice bananas into tart shells. Cover at once with whipped cream. Garnish with coconut. Six servings.

What is more American than apple pie and cheese? It is a favorite with all, and especially with the men. For a change your cheese can go right into the pie crust and you are sure to please.

Apple Pie with Cheese Crust

- 2 cups sifted flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup shortening
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shredded American cheese
- 5 tablespoons cold water (about)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 cup sugar
- 1 quart sliced, peeled cooking apples
- 2 tablespoons flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons butter

Sift flour, measure, add salt and sift again. Cut in shortening and cheese until mixture resembles coarse meal. Add water, a tablespoon at a time, stirring lightly with fork until a dough forms. Divide in two parts. Roll one-half dough and fit into a nine-inch pie pan. Trim edge of dough one-half inch beyond edge of pan. Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon and salt, sprinkle two tablespoons of mixture into bottom of pie shell. Combine



OLD-TIME BAKED PEARS

—Photo courtesy American Molasses Company

the remaining with apples. Fit apple slices into pie shell, dot with butter, and moisten edge of crust with cold water. Roll out second half of pie dough, perforate and lift on top of apples. Trim edge, fold over bottom shell, and crimp edge. Bake in a 450 degree oven, for 10 minutes, reduce heat to 350 degrees and continue to bake for 45 minutes longer, or until crust is brown and apples are tender. Serves 6

* * *

Special with Sugar

Sugar on a cake plate—Freshly baked things laid on a sugared plate keep better, don't stick, taste good!

minutes, reduce heat to 350 degrees and

Sugar in meringue—Granulated sugar sprinkled over a meringue helps keep it from tearing when cut into. Keeps it fresh and moist, too!

Orange sugar—Lemon sugar—A delectable, new breakfast treat on waffles, pancakes, or crisp toast! Mix a cup of granulated sugar with 2 or 3 tablespoons grated orange or lemon rind—sprinkle liberally!

Colored sugar—Children love festive red and green and yellow sugar on cup cakes and cookies. Blend granulated

sugar with liquid or paste coloring on waxed paper. Roll or sprinkle on.

Brown sugar on cereal—Down-south flavor on the morning cooked or cold cereals!

Kitchen-made syrups—Brown or yellow sugar boiled with water to a syrup—delicious on pancakes and waffles. And granulated sugar syrup to keep in the refrigerator for sweetening drinks, desserts, etc.

Special cinnamon toast—Try whipping together butter, sugar and cinnamon, spread on one-side-toasted bread, and broil. Delectable with brown sugar, too!

Sugar in vegetables—Nothing brings out their sweet, fresh flavors like a dash of granulated sugar in the cooking. Try it, too, for salads, salad dressings, and cream soups!

* * *

Shoulder Pads

Shoulder pads are one of the problem items in women's clothing in recent years. Though these pads are hot and bulky, hard to clean, difficult to press over as well as clumsy on hangers, they have continued in style because they are becoming and give a lift to sloping shoulders.

To save time and trouble with pads, make them removable. Instead of sewing them into clothes, attach them with small-size snaps. Snaps do not show if hidden under seams. By this simple device, pads can be taken out easily when dresses or coats are cleaned and pressed, packed or hung on hangers. They can be snapped in just before wearing the garment.

For travel, removable pads have many advantages. Dresses pack more easily and fold more smoothly without them. Trouble and expense may be saved as well as space in suitcases if one pair of pads is used for all dresses of similar style.

Pads are difficult to wash because the filling is likely to become lumpy or out of shape. Keeping them clean is much easier than cleaning them. A piece of washable material may be tacked over the side of the pad that goes next to the skin. When this becomes soiled, it is easy to wash.

Busy Years Lie Ahead For N. C. Schools

There are busy years ahead for North Carolina's little red school house, says Dr. Selz C. Mayo, associate professor of rural sociology at the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Mayo recently computed estimates of the number of new first graders that white and non-white schools might expect during the next six years. He concludes that in 1954 first grader enrollment in white schools will be half again as large as it was in 1946. In non-white schools there will be a third more new first graders in 1954 than in 1946.

The sociologist bases his estimates on the birthrates from 1939 through 1947, correcting each for infant deaths. He assumes that babies born in a given year will be ready for school about seven years later.

Using 1946 enrollment as 100 per cent, Dr. Mayo says the percentage of white first graders should be 107.6 in 1948, 117.4 in 1949, 125.4 in 1950, 118.5 in 1951,

113.0 in 1952, 134.6 in 1953 and 151.4 in 1954.

In other words, for every 100 white children born in 1939 and starting school in 1946, there will be 151 starting school in 1954. For every 100 non-white children born in 1939 and starting school in 1946 there will be about 134 starting school in 1954.

Farm Production Costs Are High

Farm production costs reached a new high during the past winter and will probably continue high through 1948, according to Charles E. Clark, Extension farm management specialist at State College.


Quoting a recent report from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, the specialist said total out-of-pocket operating expenses of farmers have risen 9 to 25 per cent each year since the 1935-39 period. The index of prices of all commodities except labor used in farm production has nearly doubled since 1939.

During the last four months of 1947, the index averaged 196 compared with 160 for the same period in 1946. The average index for the first quarter of 1948 was 202 compared with 169 last year.

Farm land rentals and land values have continued to increase. Land rentals

are over three times the pre-war level and higher than for any previous year. Land values are practically at the 1920 peak reached in the boom that followed World War I.

In comparison, although prices received for farm products reached a record high in January, there has been a general decline since, and prices of some few products are actually down to pre-war levels.



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ARTIFICIAL BREEDING

By F. I. ELLIOTT, Department of Animal Industry, N. C. State College

SO much has been written and said of late about artificial breeding that, in its own small way, the technique has taken on some of the aspects of the sulfa drugs and penicillin in the eyes of some people who are not familiar with the subject. There is no magic about it. It is not a panacea. Generally speaking, if a cow is not fertile in natural service to a fertile bull, artificial breeding will achieve no different results.

Good Bulls Available To Average Farmer

This is a tool which helps to make service to the few really outstanding herd-improving bulls available to more farmers. That is its only real excuse for existence. True, it reduces the hazard of injury by dairy bulls, it can help to prevent the spread of some diseases, and it may reduce the cost of breeding small herds, but these are secondary matters.

Again speaking generally, it is not a cheap method of getting cows to freshen. It is usually the most economical way (and in most cases the only way) to get cows bred to desirably proved sires. A desirably proved bull (as defined by the U. S. Department of Agriculture) is one who has at least five daughters which have completed at least one lactation each, whose production records show that they are an improvement over their mothers. This proof on a sire must be based on *unselected* records of *unselected* daughters.

Most artificial breeding units build their bull studs around at least a score of desirably proved sires—bulls on the use of which much of the gamble as herd improvers has been removed. Every experienced breeder or dairyman knows that when he selects a young sire for use, he is taking a gamble as to whether that bull's offspring will improve or decrease the production in his herd. A proved bull's ability to sire desirable offspring has already been tested. This is a very inadequate treatment of the subject of proved sires, but that is another story, even though a very important one.

The above discussion implies that artificial breeding is for large associations of farmers only. Say not so. Many larger breeding units now use the method successfully, in order to make greater use of their best sires. It is not to be recommended to a private breeder unless he is willing to take, or have some capable person

take, the necessary time and care to do the work well. The method requires more time per service, some equipment, and meticulous attention to detail on the part of the operator. It is not a game to be entered lightly.

Most technical people recommend that an artificial breeding program not be based on the use of one bull only. Either the bull will be overused, followed by a drop in fertility, or samples will be stored too long which will also result in low fertility. Two or three bulls are recommended minimum.

Results Depend on Sires, Cows, Technique

In natural service the fertility level in a herd is a product of the basic fertility of the bull and that of the cow. If the bull is 80 per cent fertile (few or none are 100 per cent) and the cows are 80 per cent fertile, then overall fertility will be $80 \times 80 = 64$ per cent fertile services.

In artificial breeding, the operator's technique enters into the picture. If he is good for only 80 per cent, then the result would be $80 \times 80 \times 80 = 52$ per cent fertile services. Care must be taken to see that all equipment is clean, sterile and dry, that temperatures are at all times carefully controlled, and that all possible care is taken during all procedures.

Must Pay Attention To Proper Feeding

Many farmers in North Carolina are now helping to plan for the establishment of artificial breeding programs in their counties in addition to the units already operating in some three or four counties. There will be much interest in the developments during these next few years, but the real "proof of the pudding" will come when the heifer calves, produced through this program, freshen and step into stalls in the barn alongside the other cows in the herd. Will they bring larger milk checks?

The answer in part lies in the quality of the bulls used, but it also depends to an even larger extent upon the opportunity those heifers are given to show their real worth. In other words, no matter how much inheritance for high production a sire has given his daughter, unless she is fed adequately she will never be a really good producer. *The backbone of a good dairying program is a good pasture and hay program.* Without it artificial breeding will fail and dairying will fail in North Carolina.

GOLDSBORO ALWAYS WELCOMES VISITORS

By **JAMES W. BUTLER**, Executive Secretary
Goldsboro Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association

THIS thriving city in Eastern North Carolina is the center of the area which is now in the spotlight as the annual marketing of farm commodities is occupying a prominent position in the upswing of business.

For the reason that Goldsboro believes in its agricultural and industrial assets—the two interests, agriculture and industry being closely related in these parts—the business men and merchants, the bankers and industrialists, the farmers and their families find a cordial atmosphere in which to live together and do business on terms understood by all.

It is for this reason, too, that Goldsboro merchants and business men go “all out” for a year-around market which is Goldsboro's pride.

Farmers can sell their livestock every day in the year at either the John H. Hobbs Stockyards or The Elliott Packing Company plant. They may sell their truck crops and grains in the Spring and early Summer. In the Fall there are ready markets for their cotton, tobacco, soybeans, peanuts, corn, or other crops.

Goldsboro's businesses serve a rich, growing area within a radius of 50 to 75 miles, and this city is a center where industry, agriculture, commerce and trade as well as comfortable living combine for a balance in the economy of its people. Goldsboro is the shopping center for more than the people residing within the borders of Wayne county, for its stores draw from the 600,000 people residing within 60 miles of this friendly city.

Enumeration of the factors essential to successful business operation discloses the place of leadership enjoyed by Goldsboro businesses and the fact that Goldsboro has most of them, to say the least.

Exceptional Market

Goldsboro is an exceptional market for a city in its geographical location. Its diversified market notes year-around livestock and poultry sales, with two hog-buying stations in the city operating daily; its grain and feed market is one of the topmost in the state; cotton buyers represent leading purchasers of the fleecy staple; it is one of the largest tobacco markets of the area, and is a leader for a city with the sales and processing facilities for handling flue-cured leaf; and it draws large patronage to its auction produce market. It is rapidly developing dairying as a new agricultural industry.

Industry Diversified

Too, Goldsboro's industry structure is well diversified, including textiles, brick,

iron and steel manufacturers, lumber and furniture producers, livestock feeds, farm equipment, sheet metal industries, electric wires, tobacco curers, steel storage tanks, to mention a few of the industries.

Transportation by air, rail and highway routes converging on the city from every direction give it a choice spot in the area's position as a leading center of distribution. Recreation, cultural, religious and educational facilities add to the city's desirability as a place for permanent residence.

Wayne Leading County

Goldsboro is county seat of one of the leading counties—Wayne county—in the bracket of counties with big incomes from its diversified activities in agriculture and industry. This is a factor which makes for year-around activity in retail and wholesale trade.

More than 850 businesses pay the City of Goldsboro annually a license fee for the privilege of conducting a business either as retail, wholesale or service establishment. Thus, the shopper is given a wide range in the type of store or shop in which to trade.

There is not only variety in business, but there is a program of personnel training in the retail establishment as part of the activity of the Retail Merchants Division to keep qualified sales people to aid the shopper in his exchange of dollars for merchandise.

Free Parking

Satisfying customers, whether it be in the use of free parking on Goldsboro streets, or courteous consideration of the visitors in the stores, banks, professional offices, or eating establishments, and assuring them of quality merchandise in the stores, is a must for all Goldsboro citizens.

The Goldsboro Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, Inc., is actively engaged in advancing, enlarging and guarding the business, professional and civic life of the Goldsboro area. Not only are the officers of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association striving to promote community progress through the development of a Greater Goldsboro; they are working to build a Better Goldsboro.

They delight in telling of the city's active civic organizations; the modern hospital enlargement program; the retail sales which approximated \$31,000,000 in 1947; the growing population of near 26,000; and other signs denoting progress. But they also emphasize that with all the marks of progress that are in evi-

dence, the city has not lost its charm and atmosphere of hospitality, and is going to continue to bear the trademark of courtesy and service in all its transactions with its shoppers and visitors to its markets.

State College Publications Win Top Honors in Nation

Entries from the Division of Agricultural Publications at North Carolina State College won top honors in national competition sponsored by the American Association of Agricultural College Editors at the Association's annual convention in Pullman, Washington, last week.

Eleven of the State College entries scored “excellent” and four others rated “good.” The University of Illinois, closest runner-up had seven marked “excellent” and 12 graded “good.”

It was the third successive year that the State College Division, headed by Agricultural Editor Frank H. Jeter, has led the nation in the quality and quantity of its radio and press service and its agricultural publications.

Among the State College entries winning an “excellent” rating this year were the following:

Popular Experiment Station bulletin, “Dusting Cucumbers to Control Downy Mildew.”

Extension press service for 85 daily and 299 weekly newspapers throughout the State.

Extension agricultural fillers for newspaper makeup use.

Special weekly column, “Farm Comments,” by Dr. Jeter in the Charlotte Observer.

Series of Kodachrome slides for agricultural educational purposes.

Experiment Station annual report.

Daily radio script prepared for 79 stations throughout North Carolina.

Daily radio broadcast, “Farm News Round-Up,” by Dr. Jeter on Station WPTF, Raleigh.

Special broadcast by outstanding 4-H Club members in the State.

Extension Service periodical, “Extension Farm-News,” for staff members in all 100 counties of the State.

Experiment Station quarterly periodical, “Research and Farming.”

Since a good producing dairy cow, during the early part of the lactation period often draws on the mineral reserve stored in her bones, it is advisable to add to each 100 pounds of the concentrate ration 2 pounds of a mineral mixture composed of equal parts of finely ground limestone and steamed bone meal.

NEW TOBACCO MARKET AT DUNN WINS WIDE APPROVAL

SINCE this magazine is published exclusively for our farm friends and predominately, the tobacco farmers, we won't endeavor to fill a lot of space in this story with statistical data concerning our town. Dunn is a good town. Everybody knows that. Dunn has as adequate, modern, and as complete shopping facilities as does any town its size and considerably more than many towns even larger. We are well schooled; one each of the Grammar and High Schools for the colored and the white; we have a modern hospital, adequately staffed and equipped; a big National Guard Armory which doubles in use as a municipal auditorium where dances, conventions and various forms of entertainment are held; we have 14 Churches representing all denominations; 7 paved highways lead into the city with numerous improved gravel roads; but the thing that we are proudest of is the genuine friendliness and the atmosphere in Dunn that breeds it. We welcome you to Dunn to shop or to visit or to enjoy our points of historical interest.

Now let's talk directly to the farmers. Of course, we are going to feature our new tobacco market in this article but to inform our farm friends of the concerted effort that the citizens of our community are applying toward providing complete service for our farmers and complete marketing facilities for all their crops, it is in order that we mention right here, those which we have other than the tobacco market. Recently through the efforts of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, there was established at Dunn a Hog Market with facilities for handling 1,000 hogs per day. I am informed at this writing that the market is running well ahead of schedule and has already, since its opening date, August 2, 1948, paid out to the farmers of this vicinity more than \$42,530 for their hogs. This market purchases the swine on foot and in providing a further service for our farm friends, conducts a pick-up and delivery service for hogs. All the farmer has to do is to merely notify the market and a truck will immediately pick up the animals and deliver them to the market.

Dunn is also the home of a thriving cotton market. It was once the world's leading cotton wagon market but has in later years, due to diversification of crops and for other reasons dwindle

By J. M. McCULLERS
Manager
Dunn Chamber of Commerce

dled in magnitude but is still a major factor in the economy of the farmers of this section. Tens of thousands of bales are moved annually through the Dunn market where highest prices are paid and the utmost in courtesy and consideration are rendered. The people in Dunn are proud of their cotton market and they, too, offer the farmer a cordial invitation.

Under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, there is an annual Fat Stock Show and Sale held in the Spring of each year in Dunn. Next Spring, for the first time, the show will be held in Dunn's tobacco warehouses and a bigger and better show than ever, is in the making. The calves for next year's show have already been purchased and distributed to the F.F.A. and 4 H Club boys throughout Harnett and surrounding counties, and with the celebration that is being planned to accommodate the show, big days are in store for Dunn and community, comes the early Spring of 1949.

Dunn's Colonial Frozen Food locker works with our two abattoirs in providing for our rural friends a year-around live stock market with storage and curing facilities. This has proven to be one of the most popular enterprises in Dunn during the recent years.

Dunn's new tobacco market is the most outstanding achievement of the citizens of that community in many years. A project solely of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, Inc., it was pursued for more than two years and has, this year, come into reality and is also the newest member of the markets in the Eastern tobacco belt.

Dunn's market is the only tobacco market in Harnett County, a county which produced more than 30,000,000 pounds of tobacco last year and ranks seventh among the tobacco producing Counties in the bright leaf belt.

Just how the market came into being makes an interesting story. Many citizens of the town were organized into committees of the Chamber with each working toward getting the market successfully established at the earliest possible date. Numerous obstacles arose, but each, regardless of its magnitude, was overcome through the combined efforts of the citizens of

the surrounding community with the untiring effort of the appointed committees of the Dunn Chamber. Various business men and civic leaders of the town made numerous trips to Washington, New York, Richmond, Danville, Winston-Salem and many other cities where tobacco officials were to be found, in pursuance of the project and laying the groundwork to assure the presence of buyers and government graders. About a year ago the question arose as to just who should operate the market if the citizens were successful in getting it established. The matter was given considerable thought and many meetings and investigations were held concerning various tobaccoists who were deemed qualified for the job. Finally, a Mr. Buck Currin of Angier, another town in Harnett County, was selected to manage the market, and so being, also to work with the committees of the Chamber in an advisory capacity in getting the Dunn market established. At the beginning of this year a group of Dunn's business men agreed that the time had come to build the market or to forget the project. The heat was on. Everyone of the approximate 200 businessmen who attended the mass meeting, left the meeting with renewed enthusiasm and determination to do this year what the people of that community had longed for, for more than 30 years. Plans were mapped, additional trips were made to the home office of every tobacco company to gain the necessary knowhow, and be sure of following the correct procedure. It was a slow and tiring process but as was often mentioned at the various meetings, that if successful, the dividend would many times offset the days, weeks and months of anxiety and toil that those resourceful individuals were putting into this mammoth undertaking. Finally, after several months of consultation with tobaccoists in all walks of tobacco industry, and feeling that all else had been done, the time had come for the construction of the warehouses. What the people thought would be a minor obstacle proved to be a major one in every sense of the word. When the "go" sign was given for the warehouses to be constructed, no one could be found to "go" with. The Chamber investigated the possibility of organizing a corporation of several business men who were in a position financially to construct the

buildings. This plan was unsuccessful. Many of the local business men who were interested were contacted individually in an effort to get the warehouses built at their personal expense but since no buyers or graders were guaranteed, this plan too, met with the same fate. After pursuing several other methods and each of them seemingly doomed for failure, the idea was introduced to the Chamber Committee, that possibly some party or parties, could be induced to build the buildings if a certain amount of rent or rent subsidy, could be guaranteed the builders. Whether the market was successful or not, this suggestion was received with open minds by the members of the Committee and after considerable discussion, but with an air of scepticism, the Committee said "we will try." And to what extent? \$20,000.!!!

The twenty man committee then decided on a method of raising that amount of money and planned its tactics. The following morning four telephones were kept busy calling every business man in Dunn to the Chamber office where the story was told over and over from the beginning to the end, pointing out that the market *could* be established this year with the cooperation of those men and asked them for cash donations. Five days later, the drive ended, and \$10,000 was deposited in each of Dunn's two banks. In the meantime, two individuals had been contacted and had agreed to build the two warehouses of approximately 100,000 square feet of floor space, with the \$20,000 to be used as a rent subsidy in case the market was unsuccessful. These two warehouses which are under one roof, cost approximately \$100,000 and the very fact that two of Dunn's civic leaders would make a \$100,000 investment with a return guarantee of only \$20,000 is an example to the spirit that prevailed in every citizen in that community, of their sacrifice in the building of a successful tobacco market in their town. Construction of the buildings got under way immediately and Mr. Currin began building his organization for the operation of the market. Every tobacco farmer within a 20 mile radius of the town was contacted and from the great majority, absolute pledges were received of their support of the market by selling their crop in Dunn. On June 26th, in an effort to ascertain the sentiment of the people of Harnett County about the Dunn market, a referendum was held and of the 4,039 votes cast, there were only five dissenting! These five, it is believed were cast through error, since there

was one each from five different voting precincts.

The officials of the grading service in Washington were kept constantly informed of each step in the progress of the Dunn market. Repeated trips by various farm committees of Harnett County; namely, The Farm Bureau, The Grange, The County Board of Commissioners and representatives of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, were made to the various buying companies to keep them informed and on August 19th, one of the greatest days in Dunn's history, came to pass.

Governor Nominate Kerr Scott was present for the opening ceremonies for the market and after a very fitting address and other phases of a short ceremony, Buck Currin, with a thousand watt smile on his face, raised his hand and shouted "LET'S GO!", which started the chant of the tobacco auctioneers and which has repeatedly been said was "the sweetest music Dunn has ever heard."

Today, Dunn is enjoying one of the best and most efficiently operated markets in the Eastern belt. All indications point to at least a 10,000,000 pound sale this year and for many years to come the citizens of Dunn will point with pride to their masterpiece of success through organized community effort.

Better Facilities Are Needed For Drying and Storing Corn

Lack of adequate facilities for drying and storing corn and failure on the part of many farmers to observe certain principles in handling the grain are resulting in heavy losses in one of North Carolina's most important crops, according to Dr. J. B. Cotner, marketing specialist with the State Department of Agriculture.

"Corn, like most other commodities, now is bought and sold on a grade basis," Dr. Cotner pointed out, "and its value is affected to a considerable extent by

such factors as moisture content, per cent of damaged kernels, and the amount of foreign material present.

"Excessive moisture and weevils are two of the principal causes of damage to the grain and they are responsible for greater losses than most farmers realize. Regardless of whether the corn is sold for cash or used on the farm, these losses are nonetheless real.

"Some idea of their economic importance can be gained from a few figures. Losses from damaged corn often run as high as 10 per cent of its value and sometimes are even greater, especially when the grain is held until the following spring or summer before it is sold or used. Consider this together with the information that more North Carolina acreage is devoted to corn than to any other crop and that last year's crop of 63,440,000 bushels had an estimated value of nearly 140 million dollars, placing it second only to tobacco in value.

"Anything that affects the value of our corn crop concerns the state as a whole as well as individual farmers."

Some grain buyers, Dr. Cotner continued, have complained of excessive moisture and damage in North Carolina corn, and one large out-of-state dealer recently wrote that he had temporarily suspended buying corn in Eastern North Carolina because he had found much of the grain in that area heavily infested with weevils.

To correct conditions such as these and to enable the state to realize the full value of its corn crop, Dr. Cotner recommended:

1. The development of better grain storage facilities, both on the farm and at terminal storage points.
2. More extensive use of modern grain-drying methods for reducing the moisture content of corn.
3. Treatment of corn to prevent weevils.
4. The use of official grain standards in the buying and selling of corn.

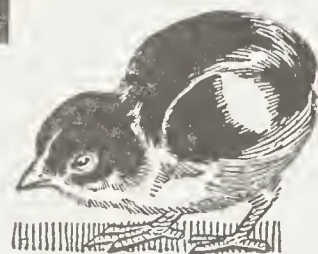
Egg production took a seasonal upturn in April when North Carolina hens laid 122 million eggs.

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GREENSBORO
NORTH CAROLINA

Yam Festival To Be Held at Tabor City

If you ever traveled up or down Highway 701, it's almost certain that some time or another you went through Tabor City, North Carolina. And you probably said to yourself, "Why, that's just a little country town." You were right, brother, because that's just what it is. But what you don't know about Tabor City is that the people are proud of that town, just like you are proud of your new car or new home. Underneath that country exterior beats the hearts of a people unselfishly determined to make their town the greatest little city on earth.

The people of Tabor City have set up a year around market for the benefit of the farmers living in the surrounding area. Each year the farmer brings tobacco, strawberries, sweet potatoes, beans, and green peppers to be sold on the Tabor City Market. It's just one big community which takes in more, much more, than the square mile area of the town itself.

All of this talk leads to the sweet potato, for the sweet potato, above all else, is queen in Tabor City. Since 1946, when over a million bushels of sweet potatoes were sold on the Tabor City Market, this little country town has become the sweet potato capital of the world.

This startling fact rolled down the streets of the town last year and blossomed into nothing less than a Big one day celebration which was called Tater Day. Besides celebrating its queenly title, the town was also announcing to the world that here in Tabor City was the world's first Sweet Potato Auction Market. And, just incidentally, this was the first celebration of its kind in the world.

Tater Day of 1947 was just the beginning as far as the people in Tabor City were concerned. They took just one piece of that "sweet potato pie" last year and decided that 1948 called for three times that amount. So, for three big days, October 14, 15, and 16, the sweet potato will reign supreme during the CAROLINA'S YAM FESTIVAL.

The name was changed from the Tabor City Tater Day because, well, it just wasn't a good name, it just didn't fit the occasion. The growers that bring their sweet potatoes to the Tabor City Market come from several counties in North and South Carolina. This is mostly their FESTIVAL, so we named it accordingly.

The committee on the CAROLINA'S YAM FESTIVAL embraces quite a large area, people that are enthusiastically behind the queen city of the sweet potatoes.

First, there is Charlie Raper, Columbus County Agent, who is chairman of the agricultural exhibit on the sweet potato. Charlie's preparing an elaborate group of

twenty-one separate exhibits which will include such important subjects as breeding, seed selection, seed treatment, plant beds and bedding, fertilization, soil selection, planting, cultivation, disease and insects, consumption, utilization, and others. Working with Charlie are agricultural experts from State College in Raleigh and Al Howard, general agricultural agent of the ACL in Wilmington.

Neil Bolton of the Tidewater Power Company is in charge of entertainment, and if you know Neil, then you know we will be thoroughly entertained. If ideas were dollars, he'd be a multi-millionaire. Just to give you a sample, Neil is having some Yam currency printed which will be distributed throughout the three day FESTIVAL, and on Saturday, October 16, there will be an auction of valuable merchandise and only that Yam currency will be used. There are a lot of interesting things planned, games and contests, which will more than fill up the three day schedule. Al Howard is right in there pitching with Neil on the entertainment end to throw some fast balls which will mean valuable prizes to the receivers.

There are a lot of other people, working on the FESTIVAL, Dick Crook, Assistant Columbus County Agent, Nan Ratliff, Columbus County Home Demonstration Agent, merchants and sweet potato dealers, the agricultural experts from Raleigh—Dr. R. P. Moore, H. R. Garris, Dr. Cochran, and Dr. Nussbaum, H. M. Covington, Joe Gourley, and Dr. Frank Jeter.

Two dances have been planned, the first one on Thursday night, the day of the opening. This is going to be one of those big, flashy affairs, where some lucky girl gets crowned, that is, as queen of the Sweet Potato for 1948. And nothing is too good for our queen this year, so we asked Larry Clinton to bring his Orchestra down from the Broadway night spots and give us some good music to dance to.

And on Saturday night the whole countryside is coming decked out in their prettiest gingham dresses and blue denims, for that's the night of the old-fashioned square dance.

But to get back to the sweet potato, the growers will again this year be offered substantial cash prizes for the purtiest baskets of sweet potatoes. The women-folks haven't been forgotten and they're in line for the same cash prizes with the tastiest dishes made from, of all things, the sweet potato. In case you haven't noticed, we love the sweet potato in this part of the country.

I could go on for pages telling you about the CAROLINA'S YAM FESTIVAL,

but I suppose you'd like to read the rest of this magazine. Anyway, seein' is believin', so come on down and see for yourself, we love you AND THE SWEET POTATO.

Small Farms Can Be Operated Profitably

Small farms can be made to yield larger returns by the use of land-building and soil-conserving practices, says C. G. Fisher, Transylvania County demonstration farmer.

A report of Mr. Fisher's accomplishments was given by T. K. Jones, farm management analyst at State College.

Since 1935 Mr. Fisher has cooperated with TVA and the North Carolina Extension Service in testing high analysis fertilizers, conserving the soil and following approved practices on his 56-acre farm in the Lake Toxaway community.

He had been using 15 acres for cropland and eight acres for pasture. A large acreage of better quality pasture was needed to support more livestock for a larger income. Five acres of the steeper cropland were shifted to pasture and seven acres more added by clearing woodland.

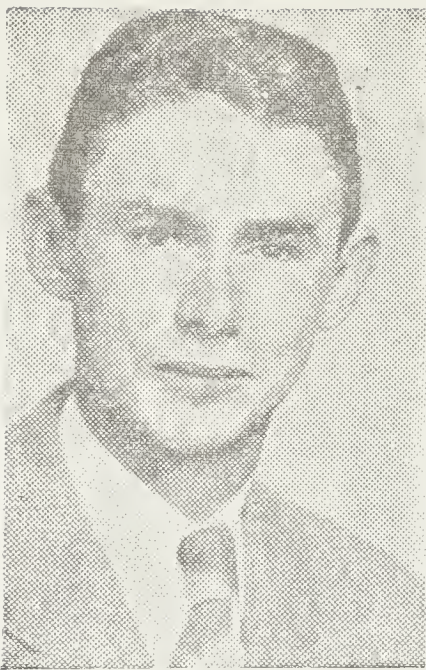
Liberal applications of lime, phosphate, and other fertilizers have resulted in much larger yields of both crops and pasture. Corn yields have risen from 40 to 85 bushels per acre and hay yields have doubled. A three-year rotation is followed in which two-thirds of the cropland is kept in soil-conserving crops each year.

To utilize best his limited cropland and pasture acreage, Mr. Fisher turned to the production of purebred polled Herefords. In addition, seven brood sows were kept in 1947. Hogs were raised mostly on the range, with grain feeding just before market.

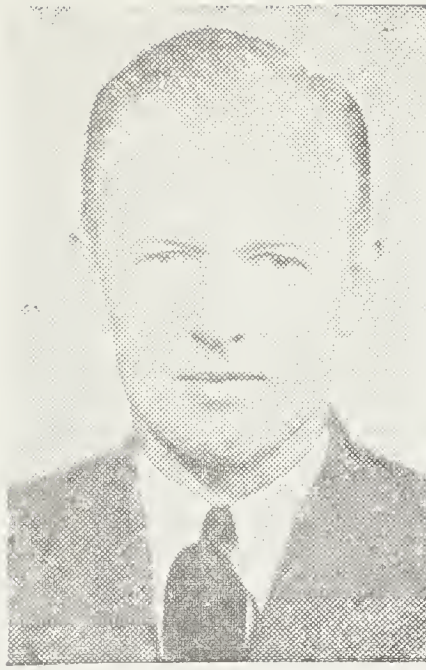
By conserving the soil, building up the land, and practicing sound management principles, members of the Fisher family have made the farm pay and as a result are enjoying a high standard of living.

In fitting a collar on a horse or mule, it should be put on and so buckled that the sides of the collar are snug enough against the neck to make it feasible to pass the fingers only, held flat, between the rim of the collar and the sides of the neck when the collar is pressed or drawn strongly back against the shoulders.

Cigarette production for the 1947-48 fiscal year is likely to be between 365 and 375 billion, compared to 361 billion during the 1946-47 period.



DR. J. FIELDING REED



CECIL D. THOMAS

Two Key Positions Filled in Agriculture Department

Two young men with a lot of experience in their respective fields have been chosen to fill key positions in the State Department of Agriculture.

They are Dr. J. Fielding Reed, professor of agronomy at N. C. State College, who has been named head of the department's soil-testing division, and Cecil D. Thomas, who has been promoted from the position of executive assistant to director of the test farms division. Their appointments were made at a recent meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

A significant point in their selection is that both have the blessings of State College and North Carolina Experiment Station officials, indicating harmonious relationships between these institutions and the department.

Dr. Reed succeeds Dr. Ivan E. Miles, who recently resigned as head of the soil-testing division to accept a position as agronomist and soils specialist in his native Mississippi. His appointment is on a half-time basis under an arrangement by which he will continue some teaching and research duties to the college.

A native of Louisiana, Dr. Reed was graduated from Louisiana State University in chemical engineering in 1932 and received a Ph.D. in chemistry with minors in agronomy and plant physiology from that institution in 1937. He has done post doctorate work at Cornell. Since 1942 he has been associated as an agronomist and soil specialist with both the Department of Agriculture and State College.

Thomas, a native of Rockingham county, was graduated from State College in agricultural economics in 1934 and three years later received his master's degree in the same subject at V.P.I. He had

experience as a county agent in Virginia and farm management specialist with the Agricultural Extension Service in North Carolina before entering the army in 1942. He served in the armored corps in the European theater and came out of the service a major. Before coming to the Department of Agriculture last December Thomas was agricultural representative of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. He succeeds the late Fred E. Miller as head of the test farms division.

Davie Youth Reports Good Egg Production

An egg production record for other 4-H Club members to aim at has been reported by Madison Angell, member of the Mocksville Senior 4-H Club, according to J. P. Bowles, assistant county agent for the State College Extension Service.

The agent said Madison is rapidly becoming one of the top-ranking young poultrymen of the State. He started his project last year when he was selected as one

of several Davie County boys to receive pullets through a poultry chain.

Madison's pullets began laying in September, and their egg production record since that time has been exceptionally good. The record was as follows: September, 64 birds, 309 eggs, 16 per cent; October, 63 birds, 1,549 eggs, 79.3 per cent; November, 62 birds, 1,557 eggs, 81 per cent; December, 61 birds, 1,257 eggs, 66.5 per cent; January 60 birds, 1,339 eggs, 72 per cent; February, 59 birds, 1,307 eggs, 76.3 per cent; March, 59 birds, 1,527 eggs, 83.5 per cent.

Madison has been well satisfied with his Parmenters—so much so that he kept his cockerels, and had some of the eggs hatched at a nearby hatchery. He is now well on his way for a bigger and better project next year, with 444 chicks. By using his own eggs he saved several dollars.

Madison's parents have been in the poultry business for 20 years, and they have helped him with advice and guidance. However, Mr. Angell recently remarked that his son made more profit on his birds last year than the parents had ever made from an equal number of hens.

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While Pastures Are Good Is Time To Plant More

When pastures are best is the time to plant some more. Livestock specialists point out that the way to have productive, year-round grazing is to plan ahead so that other grasses are ready for grazing when present pastures pass their peak.

Permanent pastures and native grasses furnish peak grazing about this time of the year. When warmer weather comes in summer months, these pastures will begin to fade and need rest. Planned ahead, temporary pastures will continue the good gains livestock have made on

permanent pastures and increase production and profits.

Sudan grass, especially the new, popular sweet variety, is one of the most practical temporary summer pasture crops in the Cotton South. Planted early in the spring when soils get warm, it usually reaches peak production when other grasses are no longer productive, and often provides excellent grazing until late fall. Sudan grass is popular because of its wide adaptability, ease of planting, and large volume of forage that is high in total energy value, vitamins, minerals and protein.

Proper stocking and the use of supplemental feeds increase the value of Sudan pasture for livestock. Sudan is most productive when allowed to grow to a height of 8 to 10 inches, and then grazed enough to keep the growth young and tender. Any extra growth should be mowed and cured for hay. Feeding cottonseed meal and dry roughage when grazing is short increases the productivity of the pasture.

It is best to keep some dry roughage always available to stock on Sudan pasture. Dry roughage is especially important when the grass is young and "washy."

When Sudan matures, a protein supplement is needed by livestock. One to two pounds of cottonseed meal or cake, daily per head, will meet the protein requirements of beef cows, dry dairy cows, or growing and bred heifers. The daily amount needed depends on the condition of the pasture, and age and condition of the cattle. When grazing is very poor, increase the protein to two to three pounds or add one to three pounds of ground grain.

Producing dairy cows on excellent Sudan pasture need a concentrate mixture containing 13 to 15 per cent protein. With dry, mature pasture, a concentrate mixture of 19 to 20 per cent protein is recommended.

Good Sudan pasture will fatten beef steers and calves to a market grade of "good" when supplemented by a daily ration of 3 to 5 pounds of dry roughage, 4 to 5 pounds of cottonseed cake or pellets, and 2 to 3 pounds of grain. When grain is scarce and costly, it may be eliminated and the daily ration of cake increased to 5 to 7 pounds.

When young and tender, Sudan is excellent pasture for hogs and poultry. It furnishes vitamins, minerals, and variety of protein, and helps to improve sanitation and provide exercise.

Brood mares and idle work stock make good use of Sudan pasture. They should have 2 to 4 pounds of dry roughage, daily, while grazing good grass. As Sudan becomes dry, supplement it with one pound of cottonseed meal, one to two pounds of grain and five to six pounds of dry rough-

age. Working animals should have a regular concentrate ration, grazing Sudan at night or during idle days.

Better Pastures Mean More Income for Farmers

By increasing his pasture production, Early Smith, Alleghany County farmer, has raised his farm income considerably, reports T. K. Jones farm management analyst at State College.

Mr. Jones believes many other North Carolina farmers could obtain a greater return on their land by giving more attention to pastures and increasing their cattle and other livestock.

Since Mr. Smith was selected as a demonstration farmer in 1940, many changes have been made on his place. Gullies have been healed; briars and broom sedge have been replaced with a luxuriant growth of bluegrass and white clover. Crop yields have been doubled by heavy applications of TVA phosphate, lime, commercial fertilizer, and manure. Last year Mr. Smith produced approximately 100 bushels of corn per acre on land which formerly averaged 40 bushels.

As production of feed and pastures has increased, the 12-cow dairy herd has grown into a 32-cow herd of good grades and purebreds. A purebred bull has been purchased, and Mr. Smith is raising his own replacements and continuing to enlarge his herd.

Increased income from milk sales has enabled Mr. Smith to make many improvements in farm and home living. A new Grade "A" dairy barn was added last year and a silo and spring house were built in 1943. Modern dairy equipment has been added, and a jeep purchased last year provides a cheap source of farm power.

A water system and bathroom have been installed in the home, and other improvements in home living are planned. Last year Mrs. Smith filled approximately 400 jars with fruits, vegetables, and meats. No food is purchased which can be produced at home.

Campaign Against Rats Continues

An estimated 110,000 farm families in North Carolina cooperated in the rural campaign. Red Squill rat bait proved so effective in destroying the rodents that many millers, grocerymen, and others now are assisting in carrying the campaign into urban centers, the specialist said.

The anti-rat program in the State Capital, Mr. Whitehead continued, has the active support of the merchants, Chamber of Commerce members, and city and county officials, and for that reason the program has proved quite effective.

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WHAT OF OUR SHEEP?

By ROBERT S. CURTIS

Is there a reason? In 1870, North Carolina had approximately 600,000 sheep. In 1900, 300,000; in 1920, 150,000; in 1940, 50,000; today, less than 40,000. Most of the other Southeastern states would tell the same story. Why?

Is it because sheep do not pay? No, for they always pay under good common sense management. High or low, sheep pay, for commodities are usually in a commensurate position with relation to cost of production and selling price. To be sure there may be some inconsistencies, but on the whole this statement is true.

Is it because sheep are difficult to raise? No, for they are not. The grower just needs to know how and this "know how" is not difficult to learn. We learn to do other things on the farm more difficult. We can learn how to grow sheep. Any member of the family can do the job. Man, woman or child of responsible age.

Is it because shelter and equipment are expensive? No, for it is not. Simple inexpensive sheds serve every purpose. Equipment is neither costly nor expensive to maintain. As for shelter, keep the feet and wool of sheep dry. That is a motto from the beginning of time.

Is it because there is not a ready market for lambs? No, for there is and at unprecedented prices. At this writing, choice lambs are selling at the car door through cooperative shipments at 31 cents per pound. Thus, a 90 to 100 pound lamb is worth approximately \$30. Never in the history of sheep growing have lambs sold so high.

Is it because there is not a market for wool? No, for there is a ready market, and at good prices for clear, sound wool. Markets for lambs and wool have been brought practically to our doorstep through cooperative shipments. One lamb or a fleece of wool can be readily marketed.

Is it because sheep eat more or different kinds of feeds? No, for sheep eat the same feeds a cow eats, only in considerably less quantity. Just good pasture, hay and some grain during the winter and during the lambing season. Next, water and salt as for all livestock.

Is it because sheep have many ailments? No, while they do have some as do all other kinds of livestock, they can best be prevented, and can be overcome by practical treatment. Stomach worms are probably the worst offenders. These can be controlled by changing pastures and by the use of phenothiazine given both in salt and in a drench.

Is it because the capital cost of sheep is too great? No, for it is not. Right

now a good lamb and the wool clip will pay for the initial cost of a ewe. With what other livestock can you pay for the capital cost of the female with a "five months old progeny." None, to our knowledge, certainly among the major farm animals.

Now let's give you a chance to give a reason or reasons why sheep are being so drastically reduced in numbers. Remember we have been talking about small farm flocks—10, 20 or possibly a few more. That's all.

Sheep Growers Plan To Expand Flocks

Encouraged by high prices for lambs and prospects of a strong demand for wool, many North Carolina sheep growers are planning to expand their flocks, according to R. S. Curtis, State Department of Agriculture marketing specialist.

"Farmers have been manifestly pleased," he said, "with prices lambs have brought at a series of cooperative sales that got under way early in June. Choice lambs have sold as high as 31 cents a pound at the car door. Even medium and common lambs have brought 20 to 25 cents a pound. The average price has been about 30 cents, or double what it was only three years ago."

The cooperative lamb sales were jointly sponsored by extension farm agents and the Department of Agriculture Markets Division, with a livestock marketing specialist present at each sale to grade deliveries. After carlot shipments are made up the lambs are usually sold to eastern packers. Growers are paid in cash on the basis of official grades.

A total of 950 lambs were delivered at the first five sales held in June, Curtis said. These sales were at Tarboro, Plymouth, Swanquarter, North Wilkesboro and West Jefferson. Other sales are planned in the Piedmont and western counties before the season ends.

Curtis said arrangements had been completed for the sale of wool again this year through a cooperative wool pool to be conducted by the Farmers Cooperative Exchange and the Allied Farmers Cooperative Association. He predicted good prices.

The week of July 12 has been designated as the time for farmers to deliver their wool for sale through the pool. Deliveries may be made at 47 FCX stores in eastern and Piedmont North and South Carolina and at Allied Farmers warehouses in the western part of North Carolina.

For best prices Curtis advised farmers not to tie wool with binder twine, but to use paper twine. Wool tied with binder twine, he added, is sometimes discounted as much as ten cents a pound. He also advised farmers to roll each fleece with the flesh side out, to tie each separately, to keep wool free from trash, dirt and moisture, and to pack each kind separately.

"The future looks bright for sheep-raising in North Carolina," Curtis said. "We now have good markets for both wool and lambs. The farmer who applies business principles in raising sheep can look for a fair return on his investment and his labor. Sheep should be an integral part in a program for balanced farming."

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ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK

N. C. State Fair Offers \$25,000 in Premiums

Approximately \$25,000 will be offered in agricultural premiums at the 1948 North Carolina State Fair which will be presented at the spacious fairgrounds near Raleigh October 19-23, Dr. J. S. Dorton, manager of the annual exposition, announced today.

The amount of prize money sets a record for the fair, and it is expected to result in a large array of the finest products of North Carolina farms. Premium books are being distributed now.

In addition to the usual awards for farm and home ribbon-winners, the State Fair is offering this year for the first time a \$1,000 cash prize to the first North Carolina farmer producing 200 bushels or more of corn to the acre, with the prize going to the farmer producing the greatest amount over 200 bushels in the event that more than one grower surpasses that mark. Nearly 400 farmers have entered the contest.

R. W. Shoffner of State College again will aid Dr. Dorton as assistant manager of the entertaining and educational exposition. General directors of exhibits will be J. Warren Smith, Dr. I. Q. Schaub, Dr. J. H. Hilton and Cecil D. Thomas, prominent leaders in North Carolina agriculture.

Anticipating a record attendance of a half-million people if good weather prevails throughout the five-day fair program, Dr. Dorton said "reports from all over the State indicate there is more interest in this year's fair than in any of the previous State fairs."

Less Sand in Fertilizer Assured by New Grade List

There will be a whole lot less sand in fertilizers sold in North Carolina in the coming crop year.

This will be the result of removal from the fertilizer grade list of two old familiar but uneconomical formulas—3-8-5 and 4-8-8. The former for many years was a popular grade with tobacco farmers and the latter was widely used for general crops, especially corn. They were cheap in price, but expensive in use, for 3-8-5 carried 520 pounds of sand to the ton and 4-8-8 had nearly 400 pounds.

The fertilizer industry itself joined with agronomists in recommending that these two grades no longer be registered

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for sale in North Carolina. To take the place of 4-8-8 they recommended 5-10-10, containing the same proportionate parts of essential ingredients in a higher ratio.

Accepting these recommendations, the State Board of Agriculture recently adopted a fertilizer grade list of 24 mixtures for 1948-49, as follows:

For tobacco only—2-10-6, 3-9-6, 4-9-3, 6-9-3, 5-5-20 (top dresser).

For tobacco and general crops—3-9-9, 4-12-8.

For general crops—0-12-12, 0-10-20, 0-9-27, 0-14-7, 2-12-12, 3-9-12, 3-12-6, 4-10-6, 4-12-4, 5-10-5, 5-10-10, 6-6-12, 6-8-6, 7-7-7, 10-6-4, 14-0-14 (top dresser), 10-0-30 (top dresser).

Government Loans on Cotton Often Exceed Market Prices

Cotton farmers in Robeson, Scotland, Harnett, Cumberland, and Hoke Counties, are losing hundreds of dollars by selling their cotton below the government support price, says Dan F. Holler, Extension Marketing specialist at State College.

Mr. Holler, upon a recent tour of these counties, found farmers selling their cotton to independent buyers for 31.50 to 32 cent per pound when the loan value on

the same qualities ranged from 32.57 to 36.12 cents per pound.

Such a practice is expensive to farmers, Mr. Holler said, adding that farmers should take advantage of the free classing service and place their cotton under government loan when the loan value is above the market price.

A cotton producer can procure a loan by placing his cotton in any of the approved bonded warehouses. If the cotton has been sampled at the gin, the producer can get his money after the class card is returned and the loan papers filled out. In case the bales have not been sampled at the gin, the warehousemen can send a sample for classification and a loan can be obtained in this manner, Mr. Holler said.

Any farmer may have his cotton classed free by getting his ginner to take a sample of each bale when it is ginned. The sample will be sent to Raleigh where it is classed and a card returned to the producer showing grade, staple and loan value of each bale sampled. Only qualified ginner in counties where an application has been made for this service may take these samples, the specialist said. A ginner not qualified for taking samples should procure a cotton sample bond from his county agent.

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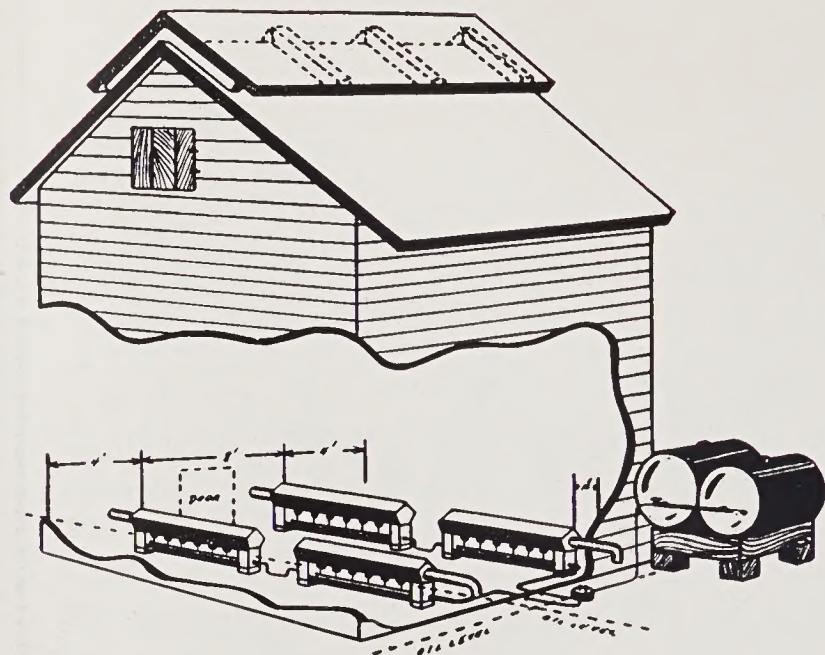
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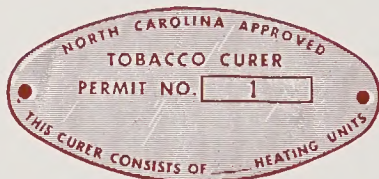
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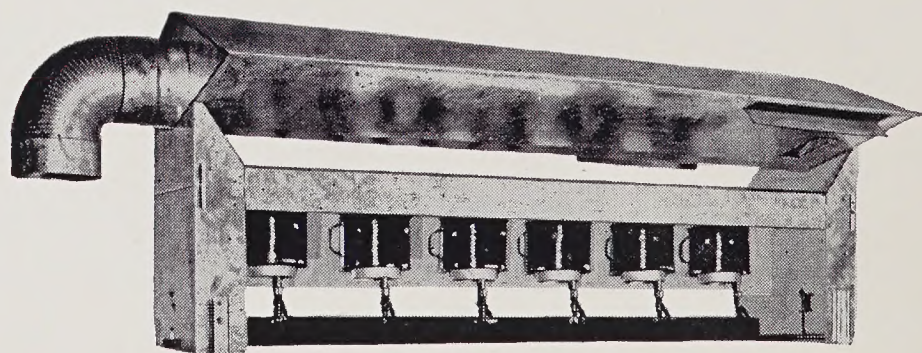
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